

Connection

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Dot Bradley Retires 5



Learning College Summit 6



Job Readiness Class 8

College Breaks Enrollment Record For Third Time This Academic Year

For the third time this academic year, we have broken an enrollment record. One of the most recent figures show 3,214 students registered for both sessions of summer school, a 17.2 percent increase over last year.

This is the College's largest-ever summer enrollment.

Tri-County enrolled a record-breaking 5,730 students for Fall Semester 2008, the largest enrollment in the history of the

College. Officials reported 5,388 students this past spring, also a record.

The number of students enrolled this summer totals more than half of the fall 2008 enrollment.

"The general population sees Tri-County as a great value, especially in these uncertain economic times," said Amanda Blanton, dean of Enrollment Management at the College.

The largest summer enrollments are in the Health Education and the Arts and Sciences Divisions. Transient students (students who are enrolled at another college or university but taking a summer course at Tri-County) are a significant component of Tri-County's summer enrollment.

Many are taking university transfer courses this summer at Tri-County at a fraction of the cost of a four-year college or university. Tri-County's tuition currently for summer is \$126 per credit hour.

"We are attracting more traditional students, who are recent high school graduates or between the ages of 18 and 24, who attend classes during the day and are full-time students," said Amanda.

She says the College has been revving up recruitment activities. "Enrollment Management is becoming more systematic in its recruiting. We are making deliberate visits to high schools, career centers, adult education facilities, and community events. The College held four open houses this spring and established a tour program on Fridays. We are more visible and accessible to our community," she said.

She added that staff is focusing on following up with students to help with the enrollment process. "The Admissions staff is developing contact strategy reports to see where the students who have applied to the College are in the admissions process. We've revamped our orientation and advising sessions so students can attend interactive, small-group orientation sessions, see an advisor, register for classes, and have a schedule in hand in under two hours. We've fine-tuned the enrollment process and made it more convenient and efficient for students."

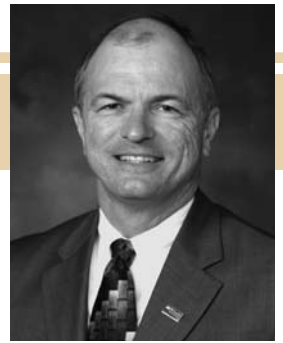
Tri-County is the second fastest-growing College in the State's system of 16 technical colleges. In the last decade, Tri-County has experienced a cumulative growth rate of 58.6% and is the fifth largest College in the System.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Upward Bound Banquet..... July 30
 CCE GraduationAugust 2
 Commission MeetingAugust 3
 Practical Nursing PinningAugust 4
 Allied Health PinningAugust 5
 Summer CommencementAugust 6
 Fall Late Registration Day..... August 18
 Fall Faculty/Staff
 Convocation August 20
 Fall Semester Begins August 24

**Check the College Activities Calendar
 in eTC for updated postings on
 upcoming events.**



**Ronnie L. Booth
 President**

Connecting

There is a document I carry with me nearly everywhere I go – our College’s Strategic Plan.

At the heart of the plan are our mission, vision, and values, from which we developed our priorities and initiatives. We are in the middle of a multi-year plan, so we already have taken steps to accomplish many of our priorities. Others are on track to be addressed during the coming year. While I won’t detail the entire plan in this column, I would like to draw your attention to our priorities and some of our key initiatives and activities.

Our first priority is to “Enhance Opportunities for Student Success,” which is the driving force behind our journey to become a true “learning college.” Activities in support of this priority include sending teams of faculty and staff to key learning college conferences; expanding communications about learning college initiatives and accomplishments, and establishing a “culture of evidence” approach to student learning outcomes. Another focus area is enrollment and retention. We have made great strides in improving our enrollment processes; our next step is to address retention.

Our second priority is to “Promote a Safe, Collegial, and Diverse Environment.” Key to accomplishing this goal is fostering an organizational culture that encourages open and full participation of all employees and students in the life of the college. We also seek to increase the diversity of the campus community through student and employee recruitment strategies, researching and adopting best practices, and expanding our employee development program to include additional services and training for supervisors. Attention to the health and safety of our College family also is identified in the plan and includes the need to refine response plans and practices for all campuses in regard to emergencies and other threats.

Third, we seek to “Promote the Professional Development and Personal Enrichment of Employees.” Strategies include providing a coordinated system and appropriate support for professional development and encouraging employee participation in personal enrichment experiences. As with other priorities, we already have made significant improvements as evidenced by new and diverse development opportunities.

Priority Four is to “Promote Economic and Community Development.” Our goal is to increase mutually beneficial collaborations between the College and the community and between the College and other educational institutions. Collaboration is one of the many things we do well, as evidenced by our Gateway to College and Bridge to Clemson programs. We need to seek additional opportunities to work with other organizations in an effort to leverage resources and expand educational opportunities in our service area. One collaboration we currently are developing is the Tri-County Economic Partnership program, which will include a Center for Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Priority Five is to “Develop and Optimize Use of Resources.” This includes our Major Gifts Campaign in association with the College’s upcoming 50th anniversary celebration in 2012. Identifying cost savings improvements also is part of this priority, which we have diligently worked on for many months in light of reductions in State funding.

**The College Strategic Plan can be
 found on the eTC Employee tab, How
 the College Works channel.**

Connection

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Tri-County Technical College does not discriminate in admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, qualifying disability, veteran’s status, or national origin.

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Spotlight on Athletics

The College welcomes new head coaches for the Men's Golf and Soccer teams. Clint Wright, who since 1983 has owned and operated Woodhaven Golf Course in Pendleton, accepted the head golf coach position in May. He replaces Doug Allen, who served as coach since the team's inception in 2005 but stepped down to resume his full-time duties as Industrial Technology Department Head at the College.

Men's soccer practice kicks off August 5 with Brendan Todt taking over as the new head coach. He continues the program formerly coached by Jonathan McCombs and John Borycki.

Since 2005, Tri-County's athletic programs (men's golf and soccer) have gained visibility and momentum. After four years of competing at the club level in NJCAA's Region X, in 2007 the College's Commission voted to allow Tri-County sports teams to be NJCAA Division I varsity teams.

This past season, the golf team placed third in the Region X tournament, and TCTC golfer Nick Williams shot 76-76-75 and finished third in the Region X year-end golf tournament to earn All-Region honors. His strong showing in this tournament also earned Williams All-District honors, which recognizes the top NJCAA players from the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi.

"Doug did a wonderful job getting the program started," said Clint. "He recruited the new players this year and has gotten the team to a point where my job is easier. I want to move the team forward on the competitive level and to increase its identity in the community," said Clint, who served as golf coach at Anderson College from 1986 - 1990. During that time, Anderson competed in the national championship every year, won the regional tournament three out of four years, and won the conference all four years. He was named regional coach of the year three years in a row. He holds Marketing and Professional Golf Management degrees from Ferris University in Michigan.

"Our incoming players are all either number one or number two on their high school teams, and they are playing in summer tournaments. My role is to polish their skills as people and as golfers. We want them to be good students, as well as good golfers, and to move on and play competitively as long as they can. Our goal is to get to the national championship this season. My overall goal is to remain a positive part of Tri-County Technical College," Clint said.

"Tri-County fits the model for having a successful golf program with its small college atmosphere, affordable tuition, academic standards and personalized instruction. We have great recruits, a great reputation and a community that is receptive to our golf program.

What more could you ask for?"

Brendan joined the College in June after he and his wife moved to the area from Chicago. He played soccer in high school and at Knox College in Illinois until a knee injury prohibited him from continuing to play. Following his injury, Todt began coaching junior high and traveling teams.

Playing collegiate sports enhances the college experience, says Brendan. "I attended a four-year residential college, and the week before classes we would have pre-season practice. It's a way for freshmen to meet friends quickly. It was a real benefit to me because I knew no one at the college. Many of my team members have become lifelong friends," he said.

"Playing sports also teaches time management skills - how to fit your academic life with your athletic and social life. You have to learn to prioritize and to multi-task," he added.

Brendan sees his role as coach as serving as a support system. "I want to foster a creative, supportive atmosphere for the team. Sports is an outside learning experience - a place to learn and a place to have fun."

He holds a degree in Creative Writing from Knox College in Illinois. In addition to coaching, he pursues freelance writing opportunities.

He and his wife, DJ, who is a family medicine resident at AnMed Health, live in Anderson.

The Hawks Soccer Team begins its season August 28 at 5 p.m. at Young Harris College in Young Harris, Georgia. The next day they play Georgia Perimeter College at Young Harris. The first home game is Sunday, September 13, at 1 p.m. at Nettles Park in Clemson.

During the first varsity season, the Hawks' soccer record was 7-13-1 overall and 3-7 in conference play. Showing improvement, the Hawks' record during the fall 2008 season was 6-10-5 overall and 6-5-3 in conference play. During the 2008 season, the Hawks also competed in the Region X conference championship and finished second in conference standings.



Clint Wright



Brendan Todt

SPOTLIGHT is a regular feature of CONNECTION that highlights College instructional programs, activities, and support services. Surveys show that our own faculty and staff play a significant role in influencing potential students to apply to the College. We're all ambassadors—so stay informed and keep doing a great job spreading the word that Tri-County is a great place to learn and grow!

IN MEMORIAM

We were saddened by the passing of several College friends and family members this month.

WIA Case Manager **Tex Johnson** passed away June 28.

Mildred Rutledge, mother of associate degree Nursing faculty member Jackie Rutledge and widow of James Rutledge, former Commissioner, died July 13 at North Greenville Hospital.

Eloise Blanks, mother of Foundation Board member Corinne Cannon, passed away July 12.

E. Guy York passed away July 17 at Richard Campbell Veterans Nursing Home. Guy led the Industrial Electronics Technology Department from the day the College opened its doors until 1989.

430 Enter Clemson *in transition* Bridge Program



During June and July, approximately 450 Bridge to Clemson students and their families participated in one of four orientation sessions. Here, **Charlotte Jenkins**, of Charleston, and her father, **Walter Jenkins**, get ready to join the group for a lunch break. This fall, Charlotte will be participating in the fourth year of the Bridge to Clemson program.

Our College Family

excellence through service

Congratulations to **Janet Fuller** and **Cathy Ford**, who both earned the designation of Certified Nurse Educator^{CM} after meeting strict eligibility criteria and successfully completing a rigorous certification examination developed and administered by the National League for Nursing. They are among the 23 nurse educators in South Carolina who have become credentialed and are serving as leaders and role models.



Janet Fuller



Cathy Ford

Janet is our Nursing Department Head, and Cathy serves as Evening Program Coordinator for the Associate Degree Nursing program.

The mission of the Academic Nurse Educator Certification Program is to recognize excellence in the advanced specialty role of the academic nurse educator.

Catherine Vinson, administrative assistant for the World Class Training Center, earned certification as a Microsoft application specialist for Office Word 2007.



Catherine Vinson

Megan Moynihan is our new Student Services Coordinator for the Industrial and Engineering Technology Division. She comes to us from Clemson University where she was an intern in the Academic Success Center. She holds a B. S. in Sociology from Clemson, where she graduated magna cum laude. In addition, Megan has an A.A. degree in Liberal Arts from Orange County Community College in Middletown, NY. Megan lives in Anderson.



Megan Moynihan

Lakishia (Kishia) Flemming-Dinkins joined us June 1 as an Admissions Counselor. For the past year, she was an Admissions Counselor and Student Services Coordinator for Virginia College in Greenville and prior to that she was an Admissions Representative for Sherman College of Straight Chiropractic in Spartanburg. She began her career as a high school art teacher at Garinger High School in Charlotte, NC. She also worked as Evening School Manager and Associate Registrar for the Art Institute of Charlotte.

Kishia is a member of the Southern Association for College Admissions Counselors and the Upstate Visual Artists Group. She received a bachelor of Fine Arts/Media from Morris College in Sumter and a master of Arts in Global Studies from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She and her husband, Rodney, live in Easley.



Kishia Flemming-Dinkins

Connecting

(continued from page 2)

Sixth, we seek to “Improve the Physical Environment.” Initiatives include developing an integrated instructional and facilities plan as the foundation for the 2008-2013 College Master Plan and seeking campus-wide input on the planned Student Life Center.

Our seventh and final priority is to “Expand Educational Opportunities.” A variety of initiatives are identified for this priority, including establishing a process to set annual enrollment targets, implementing new credit programs, offering a complete associate degree program and all related academic and support services at the Anderson Campus, and developing a comprehensive master plan for the Easley Campus and an additional campus location in Oconee County.

Despite challenging economic times, we are still on track to accomplish the things we set out to do when we developed the Strategic Plan. However, because our 2009-10 budget reflects a 22.6% reduction in State funding when compared to the beginning of the last fiscal year, we have had to make difficult choices about how to cut costs. One significant and very recent example is the restructuring of our organization, which included the consolidation of two divisions and the elimination of one Vice President position. This is yet another example of our commitment to operating with a leaner mentality and doing more with less. That, coupled with strong enrollment, has enabled us to not only remain viable, but also continue to move forward. We have proven we can accomplish much with fewer resources. Let’s continue that mindset together during the new academic year.



Ronnie L. Booth, Ph.D
President

The Anderson Campus will be adding two new full-time faculty members in the fall. **Hubert McClure** will transfer from the Pendleton campus as a full time math instructor, and **Cathy Sadat** joins us as a full-time Sociology instructor. Hubert has been teaching mathematics for the past 14 years, and Cathy has been a adjunct instructor.

retirement

It never fails. Longtime Financial Aid Counselor **Dot Bradley** says anywhere she goes – the grocery store, a gas station, a shopping mall, a public function – someone there remembers her and approaches her to thank her and to tell her how his or her life has changed as a result of Tri-County Technical College.

Since 1976, she has witnessed first hand how Tri-County can transform lives – including her own. She entered Tri-County through the JTPA program (now WIA) after being laid off from industry. “I knew Tri-County was the right choice for me. It helped me to prepare for the workforce quickly.” After completing her Business certificate in 1976, she began working in Student Records, later in the Veteran’s Affairs office, and then Admissions. In 1986, she began as a counselor in Financial Aid.

After 28 years at the College, she joined the TERI plan, and her five years are up this month. After 33 years of State service, she retired June 23. “I leave with mixed emotions. It was a great ride. I have enjoyed seeing what students can do when at first they think they can’t,” she said.

“Over the years, I have met so many people who have changed their lives and gotten back on track after enduring struggles. Many sacrificed to get their degree. I’m so proud of them because I can relate to their struggles. Education is the key,” she said.

She says retirement will be new territory. “I have worked since I was 14 years old,” she said. She will return to the College July 13 – August 31 to help with training the person hired for her job and with the fall registration crunch. Before pursuing part-time job opportunities, she plans to relax with her family: husband, Jeff, and three adult sons and grandchildren. “I will do things I haven’t had time for, like reading and trips to the beach. Family time is important, and we must use it wisely,” she said.

“I will miss my friends at the College,” said Dot. “I have a lot of good memories that I shall cherish.”



Dot Bradley



Dot (far right) served as the Alumni Association’s first secretary. (circa 1985)

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Executive Staff Updates

- **Administrative Unit Outcomes Assessments:** A new, simplified outcomes assessment summary system will be implemented by administrative units as part of SACS requirements.
- **Planning for Multiple Campuses:** As the College continues to develop the vision, role, offerings, and services of the Anderson Campus, a concerted effort is being made to develop a model that is transferable to the Easley and Seneca campuses.
- **Leadership Programs:** Selections were made for community and state-level leadership programs.
- **Identity Theft Red Flag Identification and Prevention Policy:** A new policy and procedure were developed to help the College detect and prevent identify theft risks in student payment plans, TCTC Foundation short-term loans, and the Direct Lending program.
- **Budget Update:** Strong enrollment, a 3.7% tuition increase, and cuts to expenditures have enabled the College to establish a sound budget for FY10. Despite a tuition increase, the College is still under the cap established by the South Carolina Technical College System.

The Journey Continues – Advancing as a Learning College



Pictured left to right (front row) are **Sue Andrus**, instruction librarian; **Susan Allen**, associate vice president for Academic Affairs; **Renae Frazier**, admissions and recruiting director; **Katy Goforth**, English lead instructor/ coordinator of Instructional Activities for Comprehensive Studies and Faculty Senate president; (back row) **Rebecca Eidson**, Public Relations and Communications director; **Jackie Blakley**, dean of the Business and Public Services Division; **Paul Phelps**, Welding program coordinator; **Galen DeHay**, Science department head; **Deborah Brock**, Medical Laboratory Technology instructor and faculty liaison for professional development; **Lou Ann Martin**, Math instructor and Title III Design Team chair; and **Dr. Gwen Owens**, dean of the Arts and Sciences Division.

A team of eleven faculty and staff representatives attended the League of Innovation's 2009 Learning College Summit in Phoenix, Arizona, as part of the College's continuing journey to become more powerfully focused on successful learning outcomes in all aspects of college operations.

Following the summit, the team met with the group that attended the 2008 Learning College Summit and developed an action plan to address next steps for Tri-County during 2009-10. Those strategies include pursuing conversations about learning college principles within operational units; developing a "Learning College 101" workshop for faculty and staff; developing learning forums facilitated by those who have attended the Learning College Summits over the past two years, and creating faculty discussion groups to share best practices.

Dot Bradley *(continued from page 5)*

Co-workers will miss her, also. "Dot was my financial aid counselor when I was a student (in the late 1980's)," said Renae Frazier, our director of admissions and recruiting. "About 15 years later, it was a joy for me to work alongside her as a financial aid counselor. She is a lady who does not mince words. She states the facts. I saw many students who appreciated her knowledge and expertise, as did I. We are not only losing a friend but also wealth of knowledge that cannot be replaced."

The following recently have departed the College. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Vince McCarroll
Chris Newman

Ericka Peeler
Howie Roesch

Shane Thomas

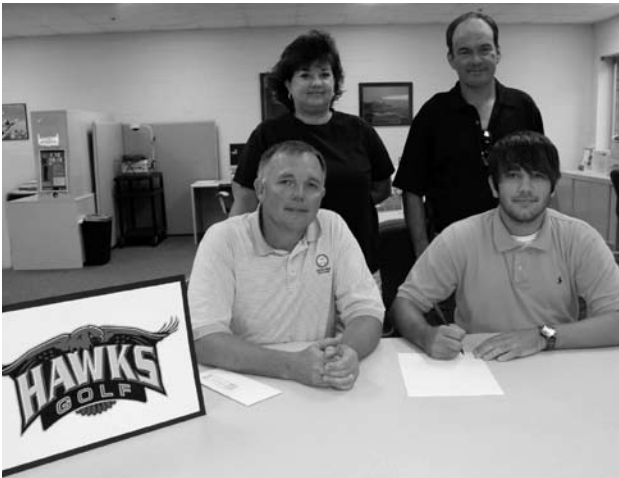
Two Sign Golf Letters of Intent

Justin Looper, seated, left, top photo, and **Brandon Pearson**, seated, right, bottom photo, signed letters of intent to play golf at Tri-County. Justin is pictured with Golf Coach **Clint Wright**, seated, right, along with Looper's brother, **Marshall**, standing, middle, and his parents, **Andra** and **Keith Looper**. Justin is a University Transfer major.



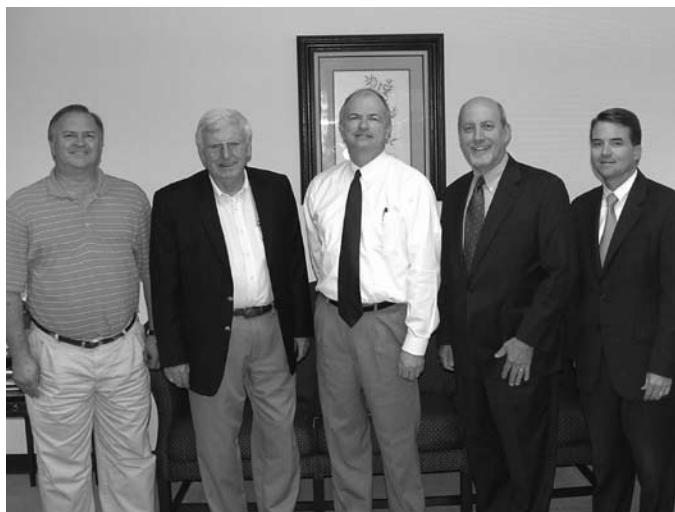
Justin's golf accomplishments at Palmetto High School included: Varsity Golf Team – Grades 9-12; Golf Team Mustang Award – 10th grade; Golf All-Region Individual Award – Grades 10, 11 and 12; member of Region Champion Golf Team – 2A, Grades 9, 11 and 12; 4th place team finish in State 2A golf tournament 2009; and Saluda Valley Junior Club Champion 2007 and 2008.

Brandon, a Business Management major, is pictured with Coach **Clint Wright**, seated, left, along with his parents, **Julia** and **Richard Bunch**, of Pendleton



Brandon's golf accomplishments at Pendleton High School included: placing first in the Anderson County Junior Golf 18 and Under Division and fifth in State 18 and Under Division. He was All-Skyline Region Choice and was All State. He was chosen for the North-South All-Star Team and made the Anderson Independent All-Area Team in Boys Golf.

County Council Chairs Meet at TCTC



Chairmen of our three service area county councils recently met with Dr. Booth and John Lummus, our vice president for Economic and Institutional Advancement, to discuss ways in which the counties and the College can work more closely together as a region. Pictured left to right are **Eddie Moore**, Anderson County; **Reg Dexter**, Oconee County; **Dr. Booth**; **Neil Smith**, Pickens County; and **John Lummus**.

Seniors Win iPod Shuffles



James Stewart, a 2009 graduate of Liberty High School, top left, and **Victoria Fouchey**, a 2009 graduate of West-Oak High School, bottom, left, are congratulated by **Donald White**, our technology programs specialist, after winning one of the iPod Shuffles from the College's Open House drawing. Both students have been admitted and registered for fall classes. James will study Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning, and Victoria is in the Pre-Pharmacy program.

CCE Offers Job Readiness Class



The Corporate and Community Education Division is offering several sections of a Job Search Readiness class as part of its QuickJobs course offerings. The course, taught by **Gail Barney**, standing, assisting student in front row, is designed to assist with developing computer literacy skills, resume writing, and online job searching. QuickJobs classes are quick and affordable training for displaced and under-employed workers who lack job specific skills or are looking for a better job.

Marketing Seminar Draws 100-Plus



More than 100 attended a "Small Business Workshop on Marketing," featuring **Louise M. Trammell**, president of Martin Advertising, right. The workshop, held in IBDC, was presented free of charge by the South Carolina Department of Commerce and Tri-County Technical College. Here, Ms. Trammell talks with **Susan Linsley**, left, and **Valarie Burgin**, both of Endless Ideas, during a break.

\$250,000 AdvanceSC Grant Funds MSSC Training

A \$250,000 grant from AdvanceSC will allow the College to conduct industry-based Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) training to assist in providing area companies with a qualified, more productive workforce.

Earning the industry's top national credential, MSSC certification, can give future and incumbent employees a competitive edge and will help to meet industry needs by preparing new workers for entry-level production and fabrication jobs.

Through the MSSC Certified Production Technician program, Tri-County's three certified MSSC instructors will deliver the 96 online modules and instructor-blended programs that cover the four areas of concentration in the Certified Production Technician training curriculum: safety; quality practices and measurement; manufacturing processes; and production and maintenance awareness.

"There is a definite need for more advanced training methods that will teach basic manufacturing skills," said Rick Cothran, dean of our Corporate and Community Education Division. "This training addresses manufacturing's inability to recruit entry-level employees with the skills required to reduce the amount of non-productive time of new employees. Tri-County will administer the MSSC Certified Production Technician program to help build a new workforce through skills upgrades and can reduce on-the-job training for new employees so they can be productive their first day on the job. It also gives an individual a portable credential to carry with them when seeking employment."

The training will be three fold, explained Rick. One part is an apprenticeship program offered for local manufacturing's present workforce. This is based on Apprenticeship Carolina, the S.C. Technical College System's newest tool to assist business partners in achieving their workforce development goals.

"Tri-County has worked diligently to aid companies in growing their own workforces through apprenticeships from Maintenance, Production, Machine Tool, Banking, Call Centers, and Emergency Medical Technicians. Apprenticeship programs couple classroom training with on-the-job training to deliver highly skilled, productive employees," said Rick.

The College also will conduct training for the unemployed and underemployed to prepare them for entry into the workforce. Persons will be recommended by the One Stop Centers and will take the Work Keys assessment test. Tri-County will advertise the Certified Production Technician training program to find individuals interested in entering manufacturing careers.

In addition, the College will be working with a local career center to offer students the opportunity to receive training in the Certified Production Technician program. This will be offered to career center students who are interested in seeking a highly skilled manufacturing career path, beginning with entry-level manufacturing jobs.

AdvanceSC is a limited liability company established by Duke Energy in 2004 to support communities in Duke Energy's South Carolina service area through grants for public assistance and economic development programs. In general, AdvanceSC concentrates on advancing education to support industry, assisting other economic development organizations to attract and retain industries in Duke Energy's service territory, and enhancing the competitive position of manufacturers in Duke Energy's service territory. Grant applications and information about AdvanceSC are available on the Internet at www.advancesc.org.